*The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger

English 10 – Mr. Cochran

“Gin a body meet a body, comin’ thro' the rye.”

– Robert Burns



Final Essay Prompt:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Human Nature

**Scientific Definition of Human Nature:** The Neanderthal did not change for hundreds of thousands of years. Do you think it is in our nature to change and adapt, or are we a stubborn species, sticking only to what works?

**Emotional Definition of Human Nature:** To what extent do you agree that what defines us as humans is our emotions, our abilities to have a range of feelings and experiences defined by emotions? Explain your reasoning.

**Psychological Definition of Human Nature:** To what extent do you agree or disagree that insight and imagination is what defines human nature? Explain your reasoning.

**Linguistic Definition of Human Nature:** To what extent do you agree or disagree that human language is what defines humans the most? Explain your reasoning.

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| **Ask a parent, sibling, teacher, coach, social media, etc. to define human nature. Report two of the answers here:**  |  |

**Reflection Journal**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Quotation from a **credible source** on Human Nature | What do you think defines human nature the most? Why?  |
|  |  |

Knapsack Challenge

List the fifteen items you would take with you if you had to leave home and never return.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

13.

14.

15.

**Reflection Journal**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **What to Consider** |  |
| **What is the most important item in your list? The least?****What do the items in your knapsack say about you?****What do you value the most in life?****How do the contents of your knapsack compare to those around you?****What made it difficult to decide what to put in the backpack?** **Don’t worry about giving short answers to each question, instead give thorough answers to just a couple.** |  |

Purpose: To analyze the techniques the author uses to establish relationships between characters.

Reread pages

* Technique: Compare and Contrast: Compare and contrast how Holden interacts with his different classmates. What do you think Salinger wants the reader to infer about Holden based on how he interacts with people?
* Technique: Imagery: Salinger creates several images as Holden stands on the hill. Cite one example of imagery that is used and explain the effect on Holden’s characterization.

Reread pages

* Technique: Dialogue: While Holden is arguing with his roommate, Stradlater says:

“I’m warning you, now. For the last time. If you don’t keep your yap shut, I’m gonna-.’

 ‘Why should I? [Holden said] ‘That’s just the trouble with all you morons. You never want to discuss anything. That’s the way you can always tell a moron. They never want to discuss anything intellig-” (Salinger 45)

* Explain what this statement illustrates about Holden and his feelings toward his classmates.
* Write the “Allie’s Mitt” descriptive essay from chapter 5 of the novel. Look back at how Holden discusses the subject, and try to write it in his style.